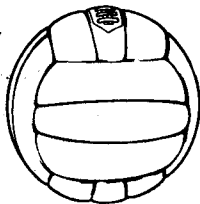


# SOCCER NEWS



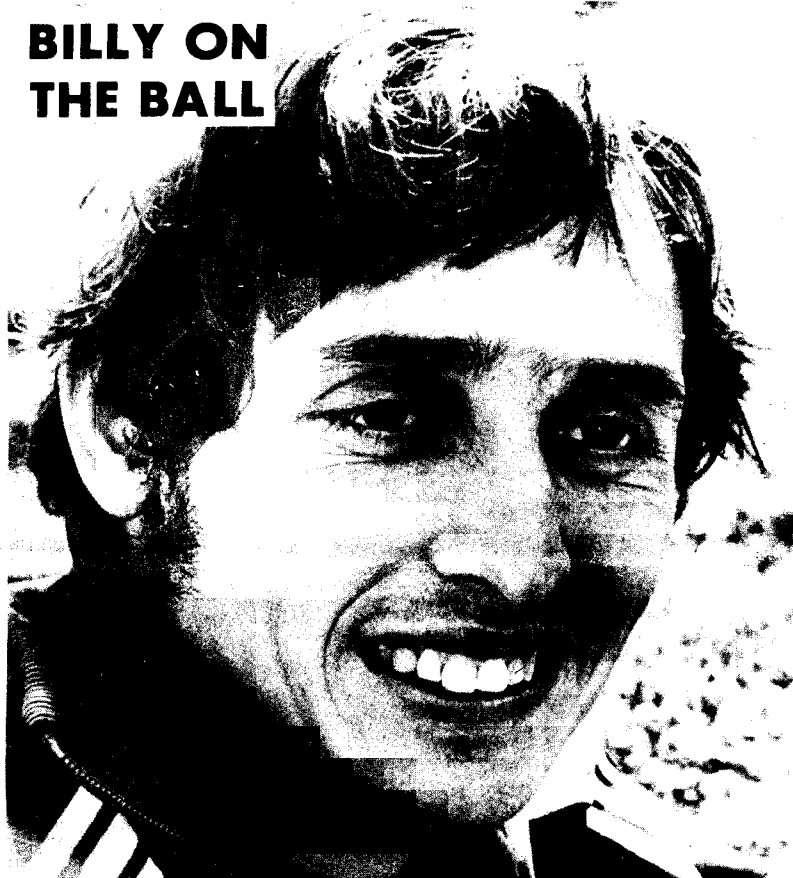
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SUNDAY NOVEMBER, 21 1971

SOUVENIR ISSUE

## BILLY ON THE BALL



Billy Vojtek, the Croatia ace who starred in the first clash in Brisbane.

## ISRAEL REACHED THE TOP ON MEXICO TRIP

Victorian Soccer Federation chairman Mr. John Gorton issued the following message of welcome to the Israel party:

"On behalf of the VSF and all soccer lovers in this State I would like to welcome the Israel national team to Olympic Park today.

which Australia hopes one day to emulate."

"It is, of course, worthy of mention that Israel reached the Mexico finals at the expense of Australia.

"Israel have already achieved soccer fame by reaching the last 16 in the 1970 Mexico series — a feat

"For this reason the present series between the two countries is of great interest, not only to

Australia and Israel but to countries round the world.

"It is a trial of strength between two countries who are on the fringe of great things in soccer.

"We look forward to an excellent exhibition of soccer today and anticipate many great duels between these two countries in the future."



**Supports Soccer  
why go past?**

# WELCOME ISRAEL!

by  
**JIM COOK**

Victorians get their first opportunity of seeing Israel's national soccer team in action this afternoon, when they oppose Australia in the final "test" of a series of three, at Olympic Park.

Prior to their current tour, Israel and Australia had met on three occasions resulting in a win for each and one drawn encounter.

In the World Cup elimination rounds, in 1969, Israel defeated Australia 1-0 in Tel Aviv. Despite a gallant attempt by Australia in the return match in Sydney, just on two years ago, a 1-1 draw was enough to see Israel through to Mexico, for a place in the last 16.

Written off by most soccer writers as being one of the "rabbits" of the World Cup in Mexico and given "Buckley's Hope" of providing any real threat to Uruguay, Italy and Sweden who were in their section, Israel shook the critics by squaring their match with Sweden and caused even a bigger impact when they held Italy, who went on to be runners-up, to a draw. The fact that they failed to make the quarter-finals, was not nearly as important as the fact that they had made their mark in the World Cup and were on the road to real progress in the international sphere.

Australia gained some small consolation for their World Cup defeat by our visitors, just over a year ago, when, on their world tour, they again met in Tel Aviv and a goal by Ray Richards was enough to give Australia victory.

So, in the short space of a little over two years, Australia and Israel have formed a close association with their meetings and results indicate how closely they are matched.

Israel have eight of their 1970 World Cup players on the present tour but for this game, they will be without their captain and star, Mordchai Spigler, who has left for U.K., where he will play in a testimonial match for Geoff Hurst, of West Ham, on Tuesday night.

They will still field a formidable side in spite of the fact that only three players remain, of the sides which opposed Australia in 1969 and 1970.

Three Israel players who come with big reputations

## May the best team win . . .

are — Yehoshua Gal, a winger with Maccabi who last year captained the Israel side, which won the Asian Youth Cup in Tokyo, Ronnie Kalderon, a 19 year old inside forward who lines up with Hapoel and goalie Izhak Wissoker, who, at 27, is one of their World Cup players and has represented his country more than 30 times.

Israel is a blend of experience and youth with several, in the latter category having their baptism for the national side.

Australia too has a formidable squad. Victorian fans will be hoping that Jim MacKay, Billy Vojtek, Ian Marshall and Frank Micic, who are representatives of the local State League soccer, are considered good enough to warrant selection for this Sunday's game.

Of course former Victorian, Jimmy Rooney, now living and playing in New South Wales, is a near

certainty for inclusion in today's line up.

The New South Wales contingent are all experienced players. The more professional approach of clubs from across the border, stands them in good stead when representing Australia at International level.

Given a real break by the weather man, (and this is overdue), fans should see something they don't often get, in games against most overseas tourists, two well matched sides. This is something which should help considerably in our plans and hopes for the World Cup in Munich in 1974.

Australia is on the verge of an international break through in soccer. Let's hope the fans give our boys tremendous vocal support and encouragement in their bid to send Israel off, a well beaten side.

Above all, we want a fast, exciting game, plenty of thrills and good soccer, and . . . **MAY THE BEST SIDE WIN.**

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## National coaching director sought

The Australian Soccer Federation will advertise nationally and throughout the world for a national director of coaching at a salary of about \$10,000 a year.

The Rothmans National Sport Foundation will finance the project.

The director's task will be to reorganise the current system of coaching and assist the national team coach in his duties as selector.

The president of the ASF, Mr. Arthur George, announced the move in Sydney last night.

In addition to his salary, the national director will receive free accommodation and air fares throughout Australia, and a

superannuation scheme will be arranged.

He will be responsible for the standard of coaching in Australia at three levels — junior, grade, and advanced.

Mr. Dettmar Kramer, a fulltime FIFA coach who is currently in Australia, has suggested Australian representative Johnny Warren would be an ideal appointee.

The Australian national soccer coach, Rale Rasic, said last night he thought Australia would not get a top-flight man for the position of national director of coaching.

Apparently the Australian Soccer Federation is offering about a \$10,000-a-year contract for wages for the director and this will not entice a first-class official," Rustic said.

FROM: The Australian



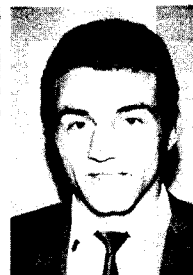
ISZHAK WISSOKER

YEHOShUA FAIGEN-  
BAUM

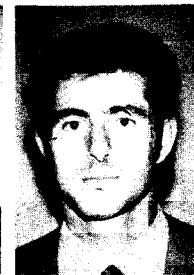
MENACHEM BELLO



SHRAGE BAR



ZVI ROSEN



YESHAYHUE SCHWAGER



ITZHAK SHUM

# MEET OUR VISITORS FROM ISRAEL

Here are details of the Israeli national squad. The team contains eight members of Israel's highly successful 1970 World Cup line-up.

Israel qualified for the finals in Mexico and performed well, gaining two drawn matches and only one loss.

**MORDECHAI SHPIGLER (AGE 27) — INSIDE FORWARD, CAPTAIN.** Born in Russia, in Israel since 1949, captain of national team and of his team — Maccabi Nathanya — current Israeli champions. Started his international career in Youth Team, gained his first cap in 1962 (54 caps). 1970 World Cup player.

**ISZHAK WISSOKER (AGE 27) — GOALKEEPER.** Plays in national division team Hapoel — Petah-Tikva. Started his international career in Youth Team, gained his first cap in 1963 (34 caps). 1970 World Cup player.

**SHRAGE BAR (AGE 22) — FULL-BACK.** Plays in Israeli champion team —

Maccabi Nathanya. Born in West Germany, in Israel since 1949. Started his international career in Youth Team, gained his first cap in 1968 (23 caps). 1970 World Cup player.

**ITZHAK SHUM (AGE 23) — HALF-BACK.** Born in Russia, in Israel since 1959. Plays in national division team Hapoel Kfar-Saba, gained his first cap in 1968 (16 caps). 1970 World Cup player.

**MENACHEM BELLO (AGE 24) — FULL-BACK.** Born in Israel, plays in national division team Maccabi — Tel Aviv. Started his international career in Youth Team, gained his first cap in 1965 (27 caps). 1970 World Cup player.

**ZVI ROSEN (AGE 27) —**

**CENTRE-HALF.** Born in West Germany, in Israel since 1948. Plays in national division team Maccabi Tel-Aviv. Started his international career in Youth Team, gained his first cap in 1966 (27 caps). 1970 World Cup player.

**YESHAYHUE SCHWAGER (AGE 25) — CENTRE-HALF.** Plays in national division team Maccabi Haifa. Started his international career in Youth Team, won his first cap in 1966 (18 caps). 1970 World Cup player.

**YEHOShUA FAIGENBAUM (AGE 24) — FORWARD OR MID-FIELD PLAYER.** Plays centre-forward in national division team Hapoel Tel-Aviv. Born in Austria, in Israel since 1949. Started his international career in Youth Team. Since 1965 a regular in the national team (29 caps). 1970 World Cup player.

**LEON BEJERANO (AGE 20) — GOALKEEPER.** Born in Israel, plays in national division team Hapoel Tel-Aviv. Started his international career in 1968.

**GABRIEL ROZENDORN (AGE 23) — HALF-BACK.** Plays in national division team Hapoel Tel-Aviv.

**SHLOMO NINIO (AGE 20) — CENTRE-HALF.** Plays in national division team Maccabi Jaffa. Youth International since 1969.

**YEHOShUA GAL (AGE 20) — OUTSIDE RIGHT.** Plays in national division team Maccabi Nathanya — current Israeli champions. Last year captained national team which won the Asian Youth Cup in Tokyo.

**GEORGE BORBA (AGE 28) — OUTSIDE LEFT.** Plays in national division team Hapoel Tel-Aviv. Gained his first cap in 1966 (17 caps).

**RONNIE KALDERON (AGE 19) — INSIDE FORWARD.** Plays in national division team Hapoel Tel-Aviv, started his international career in Youth Team in 1968.

**YEHUDA SHAARABANI (AGE 26) — FORWARD.** Plays in national division team Hakoah — Ramat-Gan, Israeli Cup-holder. Gained his first cap in 1966 (5 caps).

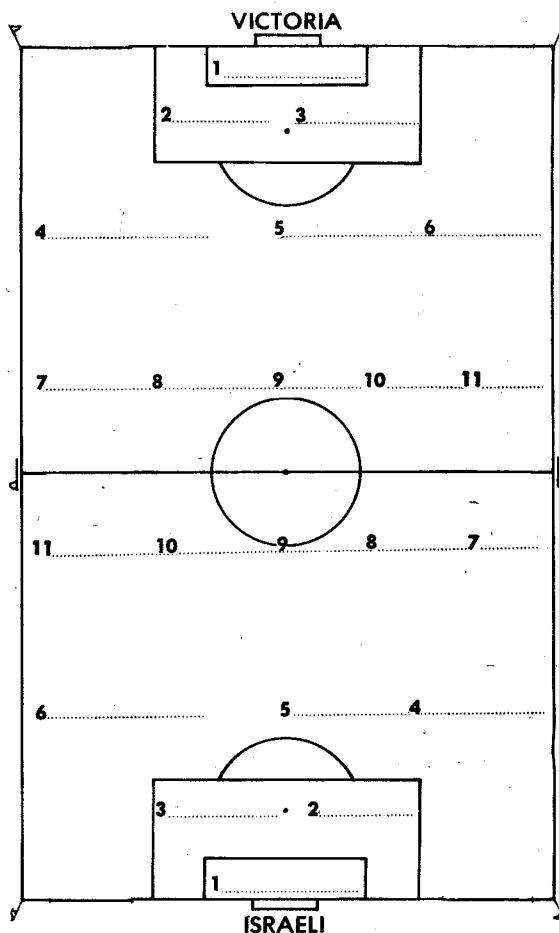
**JACOB HALIFA (AGE 20) — OUTSIDE LEFT.** Plays in national division team Hapoel Petah-Tikva.

The coach of the team is Edmond Shmilovitch and the head of the delegation is Joseph Dagan, General Secretary of the Israel Football Association.

Physician is Dr. E. Zak, physiotherapist Mr. O. Shpora.

Israel has an outstanding international record over the last few years. Here are some of the results:

10.9.68. North Ireland - Israel Friendly 2:3 Tel Aviv; 14.10.68 Israel - Ghana Olym. Games Mexico 5:3 Leon; 15.10.68. Israel - El Salvador Mexico 3:1 Leon; 17.10.68. Israel - Hungary Mexico 2:0 Guadalajara; 20.10.68 Bulgaria - Israel Mexico 1:1 Leon; 18.2.69. Sweden - Israel Friendly 4:3 Tel Aviv; 12.3.68 Greece - Israel Friendly 3:3 Tel Aviv; 23.4.69 Austria - Israel Friendly 1:1 Ramat Gan; 28.5.69. Israel - Greece Friendly 3:1 Greece; 25.8.69. Sweden - Israel Friendly 3:1 Sweden; 2.9.69. Germany - Israel Friendly 1:1 Germany; 28.9.69. Israel - New Zealand Preliminary World Cup 4:0 Tel Aviv.



Israel skipper Mordechai Shpigler, who will miss today's game, in action against the New Zealand team.

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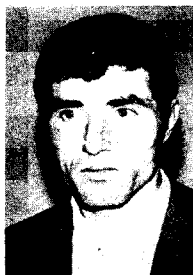


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YEHOShUA GAL



GEORGE BORBA



YEHUDA SHAARABANI



GABRIEL ROSENDORN

JIM COOK, one of Melbourne's most experienced soccer writers, takes a look at the 1971 State League season . . .

# 1971 - YEAR TO FORGET

The 1971 State League season won't go down in the record books as one of the best seasons we've had in Victoria.

The mediocre playing performances of many players and their teams, made the turnstiles click slower than they have ever clicked before as the game lost much of its spectator appeal.

Only a few games came up to the standard one expects from a competition which has been in vogue for the past 14 years. In the early 60's the State League was booming and was rewarded by many five-figure attendances at single games but which has since gone downhill at an alarming rate.

The VSF have shown their awareness of the slide by their proposals and plans to reorganise the State League and Metropolitan set-up and although criticism and opposition is likely to be launched in some quarters, the scheme is at least a move to place the game on a better footing. For without such a move, the decline of the game is unlikely to be arrested. And certainly not with cheap talk and no action.

The improvement of the Metropolitan League clubs and particularly those of the first division has made real impact on the need for reorganisation and a more equitable deal. The long felt desire to bring in certain selected country sides and make the set-up less domesticated are steps which are overdue.

But on a more sombre note, it cannot be too strongly emphasised that the top clubs and the top division must be given elbow room and not stifled in their bid and desire to make the game more professional not only in its play but also in its outlook.

But back to the State League club performances and their highlights, shortcomings and best players.

And just before I do, I must mention another disappointing aspect of the season. Fifty-seven fewer goals were scored in 1971 than in 1970 but this is a world trend in soccer as more and more coaches and clubs seem more concerned at keeping their own goal intact rather than bulge the net of the opposition.

## FOOTSCRAY JUST (Champions)

The cry that JUST were lucky — that they slipped up in the late stages of the competition and that they had Dan Zoraja and Branko Buljevic bear no resemblance to facts.

JUST were perhaps lucky on occasion as all teams were, Zoraja and Buljevic are two registered players of the club and in consequence their job is to score goals which they did and whether JUST's win is in dispute for the next score of years, the fact is they were better than the rest and proved this by finishing on top of the league.

JUST have shortcomings — no worries about that. An over-casual and all-too-timid

approach on occasion has been a bogey which has haunted them for years but in many aspects they show the basis of a professional outlook.

Ace goal-getters Dan Zoraja and Branko Buljevic, and in particular the former were the pick of the attack. Frank Micic twice winner of the Argus Medal who came close again this year in the award and was also well to the fore in the Rothmans Award, was the chief purveyor of the team as he has been for many seasons. Jimmy Milisavljevic in goal continues to improve with each season.

## SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS (Runners-Up)

Came close to winning their first title for five years and had it not been for inconsistency early on and the fact that they "threw away" a few valuable points by playing a 4-3-3 system in some games, they could have been challenging JUST much sooner than they did. They made their run too late.

With an impressive line-up on paper they belied this too many times on the field with shoddy and under-par performances.

Jim Armstrong, the former Hakoah centre forward, again led the Hellas scorers and his "bakers dozen" was a valuable contribution to their near success and this despite missing a few games through injury.

Jimmy Pygroll who topped the soccer writers' poll to win the Bill Fleming Medal Award was outstanding in midfield, Ian Marshall with his effective play as a linkman and Alan Rutherford a sound defender, were the men who mattered besides Armstrong in the Hellas line-up.

## CROATIA (3rd)

Started the year in great style by winning the Ampol Cup and then decisively whipping Western Suburbs of Sydney in the Inter-City Ampol Cup.

In league business, however, they failed to reveal their night soccer form, failed to reproduce their striking power evidenced by the fact their tally of goals is the lowest they have recorded in their State League history. The loss of form by the dependable Hugh Gunn, the loss of the scoring touch of Billy Vojtek and the premature retirement of crack midfield player, Horst Rau, were three factors which made Croatia test of a force than they have been in former years.

Ray Wixey, who took a long time to clinch a regular place in the first team was the pick of the rearguard, Jim MacKay perhaps not so dominant as usual was one of the pace-makers and did a reliable job and Ibro Hajdjic caught the eye in attack.

## MELBOURNE (4th)

Few, if any, at the start of the season gave Melbourne any real chance of winning the title. And I don't blame



It's a battle between J.U.S.T. and Hellas at Olympic Park. Our picture shows Boullis Kamboropolous heading the ball as Ulysses Kokkinos watches the outcome. J.U.S.T. caption Frank Micic is in the dark shirt.

them. For Melbourne's line up was far from impressive, especially in attack.

But the players confounded the critics even although they had lost their chief striker Ray Pocock, to Canterbury in Sydney, and later were without ace defender, Bob Dobbing, who had clinched himself a regular place in the State side, who suffered a broken leg.

In fact, Melbourne looked as good a challenger as any to JUST until the closing stages of the competition when they faltered.

In an era when most Continental sponsored sides are hard pushed to include even one player of their own nationality in their sides, Melbourne turned up trumps with two. And this pair were two of their best in defender Fabian Juhasz and midfielder Joe Szabo — both Hungarian-born and both representatives of the State side.

Right on their heels were long serving players Bill McGowan and Alistair Scott also State side men and this was the pick of Melbourne.

On the debit side, the team had several glaring weaknesses and were far removed from the outfit which won the title in 1967.

## RINGWOOD CITY-WILHELMINA. (5th)

Suffered one of the most exasperating first halves of the season in their State League history. And their failing in front of goal in this period was almost unbelievable. No wonder they chopped and changed so much in attack in the first half of the season in their bid to find a permutation which was goal-hungry.

## HOW THEY FINISHED

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Footscray J.U.S.T.	22	14	5	3	48	17	33
Sh. Melb. Hellas	22	12	8	2	41	16	32
Croatia	22	11	5	6	33	21	27
Melbourne	22	12	3	7	32	23	27
Ringwood City	22	10	4	8	40	28	24
George Cross	22	8	6	8	31	27	24
Polonia	22	9	4	9	21	26	22
Juventus	22	8	5	9	42	38	21
Hakoah	22	9	2	11	29	30	20
Box Hill	22	5	6	11	16	34	16
Fitzroy United	22	4	5	13	18	41	13
Lions	22	1	3	18	10	50	5

However, things took a different twist with the arrival of world famous veteran Bobby Collins and the former Celtic, Leeds, Everton and Scottish international star who was England's player of the year in 1985. He used his professional experience and technique to transform the Ringwood City club into a side with so much purpose and punch that they amazed the soccer fraternity by almost making the four.

To rattle on 32 goals in the second half of the competition and collect so many points was a remarkable revival.

However, the way going of Collins has somewhat dampened the success achieved following a wave of publicity surrounding the player and club. Other than Collins, David Garthwaite proved something of a find. David Pygall, the 1970 Argus Medal winner, was a reliable performer and Peter Ollerton and Terry Luckhurst get my merit ratings.

## GEORGE CROSS: (6th)

Bogged down with a player dispute before the league season kicked off and involving Kevin Walker, John Gardiner, Jimmy Smart, Luther Kastener and John Pryde, the club stood on their principles and played without any of this quintet for the first seven games. The Cross were ill equipped to replace most of them and pathetically lost a string of games by having to field immature and mediocre class reserves.

However, after the seventh round and with the return of Gardiner and Walker and the acquisition of Lou

remainder of their 14 match programme unbeaten.

Smart and Pryde were transferred to Juventus and Lions respectively and the steady and consistent goalkeeping of Ivanoff kept former State and Australian goalie, Kastener, on the sidelines.

It was ironical in one way for George Cross that Gardiner won the Rothmans Award. For had Gardiner and Walker not have been in dispute with the club over playing terms and took their usual places in the line up from the start of the season, George Cross might have had a chance of the league title and almost certainly would have clinched a place in the four.

Besides Gardiner, who played well in his 14 games, veteran Bobby McLachlan, Dario Epifano and, of course, keeper Ivanhoff, were the pick of the Cross.

## POLONIA (7th)

In top gear right at the start of the season, caught most of the top clubs off balance and strung up a series of impressive wins.

Polonia were doing so well with reservations in the early part of the season that their fans could not be blamed for thinking they had some prospects of a championship win which they

last registered 10 years ago.

It was not to be, however, and a 6-0 thrashing from Hakoah really put them in their place and showed up their weaknesses.

The slide continued but the early points they had collected were sufficient to get them a place in the Ampol Cup — poor consolation for their successes earlier in the season.

Players who caught the eye consistently were Ziggy Szalanski, Andrew Czupnik, Eddie Marmur and Davie Closs.

## JUVENTUS (8th)

No one expected with confidence that the side which won the title last year would repeat their performance this year. But by the same token, no one would expect Juventus would slip so badly that they had to rely on Box Hill beating Hakoah in the last game of the season to assure themselves of a place in the Ampol Cup.

It was either a "flash in the pan" last year or "down to earth" this year. Take your pick. And perhaps Juventus' management could be hard pushed to explain the decline.

One thing is certain. Even without George Kinneil and Jack Reilly, Juventus should have done much better.

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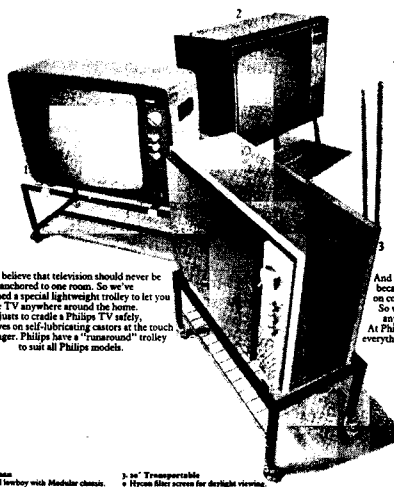
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### METROPOLITAN LEAGUE

#### DIVISION I

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Elw. Aust.	22	15	6	1	40	18	36
Altona City	22	13	5	4	32	22	31
Essendon S.	22	9	9	4	28	30	27
Sunshine C.	22	7	12	3	36	21	26
Kellor City	22	10	6	6	39	37	26
Dandenong C.	22	9	6	7	42	33	24
Ringwood U.	22	8	3	11	33	38	19
Preston Mak.	22	7	4	11	23	36	18
Yallourn	22	6	5	11	37	42	17
Frankston C.	22	5	5	12	25	45	15
Springvale	22	4	5	13	21	46	13
Prahran City	22	4	4	14	20	55	12

#### DIVISION II

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Green Gut. A.	22	18	3	1	48	12	39
Moorebank	22	14	4	4	45	20	32
Colburg	22	14	3	5	41	23	31
West. Subs.	22	12	4	6	50	25	28
Albion Rovers	22	11	4	7	44	35	26
Moreland	22	9	3	10	37	33	21
St. Albans	22	8	4	10	32	37	20
Richmond	22	8	3	11	35	37	19
Princ. Ph. H.	22	8	2	12	33	36	18
Waverley City	22	7	2	13	36	51	16
S'ringham C.	22	4	—	18	24	75	8
Brighton	22	3	—	19	25	66	6

#### DIVISION III

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Heidelberg	22	15	4	3	47	18	34
Corio	22	15	4	6	48	20	28
Croydon	22	12	4	6	33	24	28
Park Rangers	22	12	3	7	49	33	27

### St. Kilda

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ballara	22	8	7	7	36	32	23
F'ree Gully	22	9	4	9	44	28	22
Brunswick A.	22	9	4	9	31	37	22
N. Carlton O.	22	7	5	10	28	45	19
Chelsea	22	4	10	8	15	19	18
M'byrnon T.	22	4	8	10	24	34	16
E. Melb. H.	22	—	—	—	—	—	—

#### DIVISION IV

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Newport	22	17	2	3	77	35	36
South Yarra	22	14	4	4	65	38	32
Bayswater	22	13	3	6	69	29	29
Eltham	22	12	4	6	65	51	28
S'meadows C.	22	9	7	6	54	41	25
Uni. of Melb.	22	10	4	8	41	38	24
Clayton	22	9	4	9	53	36	22
D'cater Rov.	22	9	2	11	56	50	20
Mon. Uni.	22	9	2	11	46	57	20
Moorabbin	22	5	1	16	42	61	11
Mornington	22	2	1	19	32	106	6

#### DIVISION I RESERVES

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Altona City	22	16	5	1	55	21	37
Ringwood U.	22	11	6	5	57	42	24
Frankston C.	22	11	4	7	41	32	26
Dandenong C.	22	10	6	6	42	30	26
Elwood Aust.	22	10	6	6	31	25	26
Sunshine C.	22	11	2	9	45	44	24
Yallourn	22	8	5	9	32	37	21
Kellor City	22	6	6	10	30	33	18
Preston Mak.	22	7	4	11	19	32	18
Essendon S.	22	4	6	12	30	47	14
Prahran City	22	5	3	14	25	50	13
Springvale	22	4	5	13	24	57	13

### DIVISION II RESERVES

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Waverley City	22	19	—	—	—	—	39 24 38
Moorebank	22	15	4	3	40	20	34
Brighton	22	14	3	5	51	28	31
Moreland	22	14	2	6	48	24	30
West. Subs.	22	12	2	8	56	26	26
Richmond	22	8	5	9	46	42	21
Albion Rovers	22	7	7	8	41	44	21
Green Gut. A.	22	7	5	10	38	41	19
St. Albans	22	7	1	14	34	57	15
Colburg	22	3	4	15	21	65	10
S'ringham C.	22	4	2	16	23	81	10
Princ. Ph. H.	22	2	5	15	19	90	9

### DIVISION III RESERVES

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Croydon	22	18	3	1	79	18	39
Heidelberg	22	18	1	3	58	15	37
Ballara	22	13	3	6	46	20	31
Park Rangers	22	13	2	7	46	32	28
Corio	22	12	2	8	51	20	26
F'ree Gully	22	10	4	8	34	28	24
Chelsea	22	9	5	8	45	28	23
M'byrnon T.	22	7	3	12	38	40	17
B'wick Ath.	22	4	5	13	20	62	13
N. Carlton O.	22	4	3	15	26	68	11
St. Kilda	22	3	4	15	35	63	10
E. Melb. H.	22	1	3	18	18	86	5

### DIVISION IV RESERVES

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Uni. of Melb.	22	14	4	4	42	32	32
Clayton	22	13	6	3	33	30	32
B'meadows C.	22	14	4	4	54	36	32
Bayswater	22	13	4	5	52	32	30
South Yarra	22	13	3	6	45	40	29
Moorabbin	22	9	5	8	37	58	21
Eltham	22	8	5	9	37	58	21
Newport	22	7	5	10	51	58	19
Donc. Rovers	22	7	5	10	55	55	19
Rosebud	22	8	1	13	38	73	17
Monash Uni.	22	3	1	18	24	78	7
Mornington	22	—	—	—	—	—	—

## Trophy for best player

Phillips Industries Ltd., sponsors of the three international soccer matches between Australia and Israel, will present a special trophy for the best performed player during the series.

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# Big spending pays off for Metro

By George Yelland

Season 1971 was one of solid advancement in Metropolitan circles.

Many clubs spent considerable sums of money and officials burned the midnight oil in efforts to consolidate and build on firm foundations.

Elwood Austria completed a successful season by topping division one and earning a place in State League for 1972. They will move from Elwood to a fine, new, enclosed ground at Keilor and be renamed Keilor Austria.

Keilor Council, like a number of Metropolitan Councils, has been most co-operative and helpful to clubs in the area.

Austria pay tribute to the help and interest shown by Keilor Councilors.

Councils at Croydon, Lilydale, Sunshine, Altona, Frankston and a number of other cities and shires have come to the party and are showing a fine sense of civic responsibility, in increased help and interest, in this rapidly expanding sport.

Altona City made a strong bid for promotion but slipped up badly on odd occasions.

These slips, at vital moments, were sufficient to hold them down to second place at the final count. This lively and progressive club will be strong contenders for promotion in 1972.

They play an attractive, attacking brand of Soccer and with a big junior set up in the area, have a pool of young talent which should be of tremendous value in the years ahead.

Last season's State League wooden-spooner's, Essendon Slavia, had a very poor start, but recovered so effectively, in the second half of the season, that they finished in third spot.

The Montgomery Park club are short of Junior talent but may well be a force in division one next season.

Sunshine City, the league's draw specialists, might well have given Austria a run for their money, if they could have found a real goalscorer forward. A sound defence was let down by an attack which averaged only a fraction over a goal, a match.

The club is sound, with plenty of potential, and could improve next season on this year's fourth position.

Keilor City were dogged by injuries and did not challenge as in the previous season.

Like Sunshine City, Keilor advanced to the Dockerty Cup semi-finals, outing State League clubs in the process. Their efforts proved how narrow the gap has become

between Metropolitan and State League.

Dandenong City and Ringwood United disappointed their followers too often to be real challengers for the top clubs.

Preston Makedonia had a poor season and failure to meet their commitments, led to the V.S.F. taking strong disciplinary action, in demoting the club to division two for next season.

Promoted clubs Yallourn and Frankston City found the going tough but just managed to preserve their top division status for another year.

This year's experience should help them to improve in 1972.

Both clubs set heavy store on juniors. Frankston's initiative and colossal work with youngsters is well known on the peninsula.

They also found time to help fourth division Rosebud, to a better season.

Frankston is a shining example of the truly dedicated Soccer club which has helped to raise the status and importance of Metropolitan Soccer.

It is tragic, to see that lively young club, Springvale, and one of Victoria's oldest clubs, Prahran, relegated this year.

Both have the resilience to make swift comebacks. Green Gully Ajax, under the wise guidance of manager Lou Stafrace and the skill and experience of player coach Tony Vella, ran away with division two.

With plenty of reserve strength and good support, they will shock many clubs in top company. Mooroolbark, continued their meteoric rise, by gaining promotion to division one at the first attempt.

This well disciplined and dynamic club will help to make division one a great competition. There will be many titanic battles next season worthy of large public support in the Metro premier division.

Coburg United had injury problems but managed to miss out on promotion by no more than a whisker. With the demotion of Makedonia, they may still

figure in division one in 1972.

They have made great emphasis on juniors this season and it will help in the future.

Western Suburbs looked set for promotion but ill-discipline within the club and problem spectators, landed the club in trouble, and was directly responsible for them missing the jump into top company, at the first attempt.

Another club with a high reputation for progressive action, sound discipline and a big emphasis on juniors, Albion Rovers, had a mixed season.

Dogged by injuries they only managed fifth spot on the ladder, but, given an even break, they could bring first division Soccer to Selwyn Park at the end of next season.

Representing the United Kingdom Settlers, Moreland had ups and downs, finishing in mid table, but if members really get behind the club, 1972 could be a red letter year.

St. Albans, Richmond and Princes Park Hercules were disappointing and finished well down the ladder.

Waverley have built good dressing accommodation and further extensions are planned. The local council is giving them substantial help and the club is one of

our best, in the promotion of juniors. Their reserves were worthy champions, yet the senior side finished third last in the League.

The club has a rosy future. As their juniors develop, they will become a big force in Metropolitan circles.

It is sad to see two of our oldest and most respected clubs, Sandringham and Brighton, slide into division three, with scarcely a fight. We can only hope that they will reorganise their set up and speedily fight their way back.

Heidelberg, always a strong club, raced away with division three and will be accompanied by Geelong club, Corio, into division two.

Corio have teams in all age groups and is one of the most progressive clubs in Victoria. They own their own club rooms and the land on which they are built and are very much an up and coming set up.

Corio picked another fine club, Croydon, on goal average, but the eastern suburbs club is one to watch next year.

Park Rangers had a much improved season and finished only one point behind promoted club Corio.

St. Kilda, Ballarat and Ferntree Gully had mixed fortunes and last season's relegated club, Brunswick

Athens managed only an average of one point a game.

The other relegated club, Maribyrnong Triestina made a brave late effort to avoid being relegated again, but failed.

This one time State League club must now figure in Metro's bottom division.

They are accompanied by East Melbourne Helvetic who failed to win a single game.

Two of last season's strong clubs, North Carlton Olympic and Chelsea had poor seasons and finished only just clear of relegation.

Olympic had player problems and Chelsea, with one of the best defences in the league, had a pathetic attack, which mustered only fifteen goals in twenty two games.

Division Four had one of its best competitions for years.

Several clubs headed the League at different times, but Newport emerged worthy champions.

Another old club, with an illustrious history, started the long haul back. South Yarra will accompany Newport into division three next season, after finishing runners up.

Another great club, Bayswater, just missed out on promotion.

This fast developing, sporty and well disciplined club, had a great year.

Footscray J.U.S.T., the 1971 State League champions. Photo by R. Miljkovic.

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One that didn't go in the net! Dino de Marchi, Juventus striker (centre) and Bryan Thomson (on the ground) clash with Box Hill goalie John Hager. De Marchi and Thomson were Juventus' most outstanding goalscorers this season. John Brown (8) is the Box Hill player on the left of the picture.

## 1971 - YEAR TO FORGET

• Cont. from P.3  
Few players can be rated — Jock Goodwin wins a place with his consistency and steadiness. Sandy Irvine for his untiring efforts to put some life into the side and young Maurice Bonfini showed promise.

HA KOAH (8th)

Out of the Ampol Cup through a surprise last game defeat by Box Hill, Haikoah looked good enough at the start of the season and even at the half-way mark to make it. Mediocrity in their line-up proved their failing and without the considerable goal tally of Mike Clarey (now back in England) they would have been much worse off and even in "queer street".

To make the four only twice in the past 10 years and yet miss out on the night soccer only twice in the same period confirms they are a side who could hold their place in the present State League set-up without getting anywhere.

BOX HILL (10th)

Kicked off on a bright note when they made JUST fight all the way for a 1-0 win in the opening game. And the Hillmen were unlucky to lose.

Put up a brave show in the first half of the season and played much better and gained the bulk of the points they collected in this period away from home.

But it was obvious it

was team spirit, dedication and enthusiasm which was carrying them through to some measure of success and it was not surprising they faltered and crumbled in the second half of the season.

For they lacked the most important aspect of the soccer business — certain class and for this there can be no real substitute.

Top players John Hager, Norm Voce, Jim McCracken and player-coach, John Brown.

FITZROY ALEXANDER (11th)

Cedo Cirkovic when with JUST was one of the biggest hearted players in the game but when he took over Alexander he took on an outside job with little prospects.

For this club have promised so much and achieved so little in the six seasons they have been in State League that Houdini at the helm would not have made any impression.

For those interested in records, Alexander in their six seasons in State League have been relegated twice, finished on 10th position of the ladder twice and another couple of times have slipped down to the lower rung in 11th position.

The long-serving Jim Mangopolous was by a mile their best player with player coach, Cedo Cirkovic, and winger Ronnie Brown, the pick of the rest.

LIONS (Relegated)

Never has a club been in a more hopeless position than Lions were so early in the season. Going for almost half the season without scoring a goal or grabbing a point was indicative that they were doomed for relegation long before the season ended.

It was simply another case of the players they had at their disposal not being good enough to ensure they even retain their status.

Massive permutations failed to improve the side and even two or three new additions to their playing staff only made a token improvement in their particular positions.

Few players gained any reputation with their all-round displays but Livingstone, Panther, Eadie, Butler and Napadowski looked better than the rest.

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# AUSSIE LINE-UP

Here is a run-down on the 17-strong Australian squad which has drawn one game and won one so far in the series against Israel.

**BILL BORKE (Marconi)** — last minute replacement for injured No. 1 goalie Jack Reilly (St. George).

**ROGER ROMANOWICZ** — **GOALKEEPER.** Consistently Australia's No. 2 choice since 1967. Excellent agility and reflexes, plays with Polonia in South Australia.

**GEORGE HARRIS** — **DEFENDER.** Outstanding find of the 1971 season. Feature of his play is amazing speed. Excellent in the air and dedicated professional approach. Plays with St. George-Budapest in Sydney.

**PETER WILSON** — **DEFENDER.** Tall, strong sweeper, outstanding player in the national team's overseas tour in 1970. Plays for South Coast United in Sydney.

**FRANK MICIC** — **MIDFIELD.** JUST (Vic.) star called in to replace injured Ray Richards.

**ADRIAN ALSTON** — **DEFENDER.** At only 22 years of age, he has enormous potential. Skilful and probably his best attribute is his command in the air. Plays for St. George-Budapest.

**BOHDEN NYSKOHUS** — **DEFENDER.** Selected for the first occasion for the Israel tour. Very talented young player with U.S.C. Lion in South Australia.

**JIMMY MCKAY** — **MIDFIELD.** Discovered on the short tour to South Vietnam early in 1970. Quick thinking player, with excellent sense of anticipation and a flair for attacking play. Plays for Croatia in Melbourne.

**JIMMY ROONEY** — **MIDFIELD.** One of the finest ball players in the national squad. Plays for Prague in Sydney.

**RAY BAARTZ** — **MIDFIELD.** One of the most talented footballers in Australia. Tremendous shooting power and skill. Plays for Hakoah in Sydney.

**IAN MARSHALL** — **MIDFIELD.** Selected for the first occasion against Israel. Skilful, determined, gives 90 minute sustained performance. Plays for South Melbourne Hellas.

**BILLY VOJTEC** — **FORWARD.** Most experienced player of the national squad. Fast, dangerous, possessing an excellent shot. Plays for Croatia in Melbourne.

**MAX TOLSON** — **FORWARD.** One of the most powerful strikers in the game. Good in the air. Can play successfully in attack and defence. Plays for South Coast United in Sydney.

**ALAN AINSLIE** — **FORWARD.** Relies on speed and skill and possesses a deadly left foot. Plays for St. George-Budapest. Top-rated player.

**ERNIE CAMPBELL** — **FORWARD.** Representing Australia for the first occasion. Has been close to honors in previous occasions. Great potential but yet to prove his ability at international level. Plays for Marconi in Sydney.

**BRIAN TURNER** — **FORWARD.** Very fast and powerful player. Still developing. Plays for Western Suburbs in Sydney.

**TERRY BUTLER** — **FORWARD.** Youngest player ever selected for the national team. Just completed his first and outstanding season with his club Apia.



ABOVE: Sir David Hill-Wood (left), president of the Victorian Soccer Federation, with John Gardiner, George Cross inside forward, after John had been presented with the first Rothman's \$800 Gold Medal for best player for 1971.

LEFT: Jimmy Pyrgolios, of South Melbourne-Hellas, who won the Bill Fleming medal for 1971 after being voted best player by soccer writers.



## FIVE-SIDE-SOCCER

An agreement between the Victorian Soccer Federation and GTV9 has resulted in a major breakthrough for Soccer on Television.

Early in December the "Square Box" fanatics will be able to see one of the fastest sports in the world "Indoor Soccer". The game has become a thriving sport, the world over.

It will be the first time that Indoor Soccer has been televised as a competition, in Australia. It is intended that there will be thirteen one hour programmes, scheduled to

follow "World Championship Wrestling", at 1 p.m. Sundays.

Rules differ from the normal concept of Soccer. Major differences being no offside, which keeps the game moving, the ball must be kept below head height and charging is forbidden. A full game in the championship rounds lasts for eight minutes, (four each way), with slightly longer periods for the final series.

Skilful players are an asset in this fast game and the usage of the specially constructed wall is an art in itself.

The competition will be run on a league basis, with the top four playing off in the final series. Teams that have been chosen to play in this first competition are:

Altona City, Box Hill, Croatia, Frankston City, Footscray JUST, George Cross, Hakoah, Kellor Austria, Mooroolbark, Polonia, Ringwood City, Wilhelmina, Melbourne.

All teams will play each other once.

Programmes will be telecast on Tuesdays at the Footscray West YMCA, commencing 30th November, 1971.

## GARDINER WINS ROTHMANS' MEDAL

By VINCENT BASILE, of The Age.

Brilliant George Cross inside-forward John Gardiner won the 1971 Rothman's award for the best and fairest soccer player in Victoria.

It was a neck-and-neck race, with Gardiner winning by three votes from Hugh Murney of Hakoah, Ian Marshall of Hellas and Jim McCracken of Box Hill.

Gardiner polled three votes in the last round for a total of 23 votes.

Murney, Marshall and McCracken polled 20 votes each.

Gardiner's win came as a shock because, although he was outstanding he missed the first seven games of the 22-match State League premiership.

He was one of George Cross's five rebel players

who was suspended by the club over a payment disagreement.

After Gardiner rejoined George Cross the team had an unbeaten run of 14 games.

"I gave myself a good chance of polling reasonably well, but no chance of winning," he said.

Gardiner, 24, came to Australia from Dundee, Scotland, three years ago. He is married with a five-year-old son, Bruce.

The Rothman's Award consists of a specially designed gold medal valued at \$800.

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